

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An AC generator for use in a vehicle, including:**

a stator having a stator core and a stator winding wound around said stator core; and

a rectifier for rectifying an AC output of said stator, said AC generator further comprising:

a connection latch portion formed at an end portion of each of conductor wires constituting said stator winding in such a manner as to have a mounting hole.

wherein said conductor wires are connected to said rectifier by passing mounting screws through the mounting holes to thereby fasten and fix said connection latch portions to mounting seats of said rectifier.

2. The AC generator for use in a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein each of said connection latch portions is formed like a plate.

3. The AC generator for use in a vehicle according to claim 2, wherein each of said connection latch portions is formed in such a manner as to have a thickness nearly equal to that of said conductor wires.

4. The AC generator for use in a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein each of said connection latch portions is formed by folding back said end portion of each of said conductor wires deformed like thin plates.

5. The AC generator for use in a vehicle according to claim 1, wherein each of said conductor wires has a rectangular cross section, and wherein each of said connection latch portions is formed by digging said mounting hole in said end portion of each of said conductor wires.

6. The AC generator for use in a vehicle according to claim 5, wherein each of said connection latch portions is formed like a plate whose thickness is less than that of said conductor wires.

7. A method for forming connection latch portions of conductor wires applied to a stator winding of an AC generator for use in a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

removing an insulating coating from a predetermined end-side range of each of said conductor wires each covered with the insulating coating;

deforming an end portion of each of said conductor wires like a plate;
and

forming a mounting hole in said end portion, which is deformed like a plate, of each of said conductor wires.

8. The method for forming connection latch portions of conductor wires applied to a stator winding of an AC generator for use in a vehicle according to claim 7, wherein the step of deforming said end portion of each of said conductor wires like a plate comprises a first step of deforming said end portion of each of said conductor wires like a sphere by melting said end portion thereof, and a second step of deforming said end portion, which is

deformed like a sphere, of each of said conductor wires like a plate.

9. A method for forming connection latch portions of conductor wires applied to a stator winding of an AC generator for use in a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

removing an insulating coating from a predetermined end-side range of each of said conductor wires each covered with the insulating coating;

bending an end portion of each of said conductor wires like a ring; and

deforming the end portion, which is bent like a ring, of each of said conductor wires like a plate and subsequently forming a mounting hole in said end portion of each of said conductor wires.

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